

AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-513 struck out designation “(a)” before “Except for an officer”, substituted “an active-duty list” for “a lineal list”, struck out sentence which had provided that a staff corps officer with the same date of rank as his running mate ranked above all line and staff corps officers junior to his running mate, and struck out subsec. (b) which had provided for a hierarchy of 9 categories of officers of the Navy to be used in ranking officers of the Navy on active duty serving in the same grade and having the same date of rank in that grade.

1967—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 90-179 added par. (6) and renumbered former pars. (6), (7), and (8) as pars. (7), (8), and (9), respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Sept. 15, 1981, see section 701 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

CHAPTER 537—ENLISTMENTS

Sec.

[5531 to 5539. Repealed.]

5540. Expiration: rights of member.

AMENDMENTS

1968—Pub. L. 90-235, §2(a)(3), (b), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 756, struck out item 5531 “Recruiting campaigns: use of advertising agencies”, item 5532 “Prohibited classes”, item 5533 “Minors”, item 5534 “Term: grade”, item 5535 “Evidence of age required for certain enlistments of minors”, item 5537 “Extension: during disability incident to service”, item 5538 “Extension: during war or national emergency”, and item 5539 “Extension: voluntary, period and benefits.”

1958—Pub. L. 85-861, §1(115), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1493, struck out item 5536 “Extension: time lost through misconduct or unauthorized absence”.

[§§ 5531 to 5535. Repealed. Pub. L. 90-235, §2(a)(3), (b), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 756]

Section 5531, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 318, provided for recruiting campaigns to obtain enlistments in the Regular Navy and the Regular Marine Corps.

Section 5532, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 318, set forth classes of persons prohibited from enlisting in the naval service.

Section 5533, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 318, provided for enlistment of minors in naval service.

Section 5534, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 318, set forth term of enlistments in Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps and provided that Secretary of Navy could prescribe grades or ratings in which such enlistments could be made.

Section 5535, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 319, required evidence of age for enlistment of minors in Regular Navy as seamen, seamen apprentices or seamen recruits.

[§ 5536. Repealed. Pub. L. 85-861, §36B(13), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1571]

Section, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 319, related to extension of service by reason of time lost through misconduct or unauthorized absence. See section 972(a) of this title.

[§§ 5537 to 5539. Repealed. Pub. L. 90-235, §2(a)(3), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 756]

Section 5537, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 319, provided for extension of naval service during disability incident to service.

Section 5538, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 319, provided for extension of enlistments in Regular Navy

or Regular Marine Corps during war or national emergency.

Section 5539, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 320; Sept. 2, 1958, Pub. L. 85-861, §1(116), 72 Stat. 1493; Sept. 7, 1962, Pub. L. 87-649, §14c(27), 76 Stat. 501, provided for voluntary extension or re-extension of enlistments in Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps.

§ 5540. Expiration: rights of member

(a) The senior officer present afloat in foreign waters shall send to the United States by Government or other transportation as soon as possible each enlisted member of the naval service who is serving on a naval vessel, whose term of enlistment has expired, and who desires to return to the United States. However, when the senior officer present afloat considers it essential to the public interest, he may retain such a member on active duty until the vessel returns to the United States.

(b) Each member retained under this section—

(1) shall be discharged not later than 30 days after his arrival in the United States; and

(2) except in time of war is entitled to an increase in basic pay of 25 percent.

(c) The substance of this section shall be included in the enlistment contract of each person enlisting in the naval service.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 320.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5540	34 U.S.C. 201.	R.S. 1422; Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 155, 18 Stat. 484.
	34 U.S.C. 201a.	Aug. 18, 1941, ch. 364, §4, 55 Stat. 630.
	34 U.S.C. 201b.	Dec. 13, 1941, ch. 570, §2, 55 Stat. 799.

In subsection (a) the words “the senior officer present afloat” are substituted for the words “the commanding officer of any fleet, squadron, or vessel acting singly” to modernize the terminology. At the time of the enactment of the Revised Statutes the word “squadron” meant an organization of any number of vessels more than one, so that all cases were covered by R.S. 1422. The concept of “senior officer present afloat”, today, covers as nearly as possible the current equivalent of the concept in the original section. The words “in foreign waters” are inserted to conform to the interpretation of the Supreme Court in *Wilkes v. Dinsman*, 7 How. 89 (1849). The words “on service” are omitted, as they have no current ascertainable meaning. The words “by Government or other transportation” are substituted for the words “in some public or other vessel”, since this provision is interpreted as directing transportation by either ship or aircraft. The words “to the United States” are substituted for the words “to an Atlantic or to a Pacific port of the United States, as their enlistment may have occurred on either the Atlantic or Pacific coast, of the United States” because aircraft now land at inland airports as well as coastal airports and the duty to return an enlisted member to the United States under this provision is considered complete upon the member’s arrival in the United States. The extensive transportation system in the United States presently obviates the necessity of returning a member to a particular area. Furthermore, under 37 U.S.C. 253, the Government bears the cost of transporting the discharged member to his home or to the place from which he was called to active duty. The words “enlisted member of the naval service” are substituted for the words “all petty officers and persons of inferior ratings” in accordance with present terminology. Members of the Marine Corps are included because of inter-